# **News Release**



2 May 2024

# WesCEF Managing Director retirement and appointment

Wesfarmers today announced that Ian Hansen, Managing Director of Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy and Fertilisers (WesCEF) has advised of his intention to retire in November 2024. Mr Hansen will remain with WesCEF and Wesfarmers in an advisory capacity to ensure a smooth transition and provide ongoing support on key projects, including the Group's lithium business, where he will remain Chairman of Covalent Lithium.

Mr Hansen will be succeeded by Aaron Hood, WesCEF's Chief Operating Officer. Prior to his current role Mr Hood held other senior executive positions within the Group, including Chief Financial Officer of WesCEF and Executive General Manager of Business Development at Wesfarmers. He is also a director of the Covalent Lithium joint venture.

Wesfarmers Managing Director Rob Scott said Mr Hood's skills and experience made him a logical successor to Mr Hansen.

"Aaron brings strong commercial acumen together with technical expertise in relation to the WesCEF and Covalent operations," Mr Scott said. "I look forward to working with Aaron in what is an exciting time for WesCEF, with a range of major opportunities in the well-established chemicals, energy and fertiliser businesses, and the continued ramp up of the Covalent lithium project."

Mr Scott also thanked Mr Hansen for his immense contribution to the Group.

"Ian has been instrumental in the growth and success of WesCEF and is a deeply trusted and respected member of our Wesfarmers Leadership Team," Mr Scott said. "Ian originally joined CSBP in 1983 as a Chemist at the Albany fertiliser works in WA and over the next 40 years built a remarkable career with WesCEF, as an operator, manager and executive leader.

"Ian will leave WesCEF with a track record of delivering consistent operational excellence and many major projects, while having significantly advanced the division's safety, diversity and sustainability performance. Ian has the gratitude and best wishes of the Wesfarmers Board, Leadership Team and the broader Group."

Mr Hansen said he was proud to have been part of the growth of the division over his tenure and believes the division is well positioned for future success.

"I am honoured and humbled to have been given the opportunity to provide leadership and be part of WesCEF over such a long period of time. I will retire very proud of our positive, respectful and inclusive culture, which reflects our people and purpose."

Mr Hood has been appointed Deputy Managing Director of WesCEF effective 2 May 2024 and will also retain responsibilities as Chief Operating Officer until he commences as the Managing Director of WesCEF in November 2024.

# For more information:

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This announcement was authorised to be given to the ASX by the Wesfarmers Disclosure Committee.

# **Aaron Hood**

Aaron was appointed Chief Operating Officer of WesCEF in July 2023. Prior to this, he was Wesfarmers' Executive General Manager, Business Development and has previously held the role of WesCEF's Chief Financial Officer. Aaron has Mechanical Engineering and Commerce degrees from The University of Western Australia and an MBA from INSEAD. He started his career with Macquarie Bank in Sydney before moving into the private equity industry. His later roles focused on the mining sector, including leading Andrew Forrest's family office and as Executive Director of the mining-focused fund, EMR Capital. Aaron is a director of the Wesfarmers joint venture company, Covalent Lithium.

